

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-7 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider her rejections in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth below.

Changes to the Specification

By way of the present Amendment, Applicant has amended the specification in two locations to correct typographical errors. No new matter has been entered by way of this Amendment.

Rejection Under 35 USC 102

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Wasmer et al. (U.S. Patent 5,005,069). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner cites Wasmer et al. to show a rectification chip terminal structure including a chip 66 mounted in a terminal 62 by solder 68 and 74 and with rubber injections 78, 88 and 89. The Examiner also points out rib ring 69, platform 65c, a first buffer groove between the platform and the rib ring and the groove guiding corner. The Examiner only specifies the groove ring and the groove guiding corner by reference to Fig. 4. The Examiner also points out the protruded threads and the

second buffer groove by reference to Figs. 4 and 3, respectively.

Applicant submits that independent claims 1 and 3 are not taught by Wasmer et al. Further, Applicant submits that the Examiner has not met his burden of properly identifying all claimed elements. Applicant submits that merely providing a reference to a figure number does not properly identify an element. Thus, it is not clear exactly which structures are being called the first buffer groove, the second buffer groove and the protruded threads. In particular, it is not at all clear what corresponds to the second buffer groove and how it is disposed on the bottom of the terminal in a position corresponding to the first groove. Applicants see no such device in either Figs. 3 or 4 of the reference. If the Examiner persists in this rejection, she is requested to point out which element in the reference is being considered the second buffer groove.

In regard to claim 1, Applicant has now amended the claim to better describe the second buffer groove. Thus, this claim requires that the terminal structure have a buffer groove between the platform and the rib ring and that this buffer groove has a groove guiding corner. The claim also requires a second buffer groove on the bottom of the terminal in a position corresponding to the first buffer groove. Applicant submits

that the Wasmer reference does not show this arrangement. In particular, Applicant submits that this reference does not show the second buffer groove. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 1 is allowable.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1 and as such is also considered to be allowable. In addition, this claim further recites protruded threads on the surface of the periphery terminal. This is also not seen in the reference.

Claim 3 is a separate independent claim similar to claim 1 but further describes the protruded ring. Applicant submits that this claim is likewise allowable since it recites similar recitations to claim 1 including both the first buffer groove and the second buffer groove. Thus, Applicant submits that claim 3 is also allowable.

Claims 4 and 5 have been added to describe the use and result of the second buffer groove. Since the Wasmer et al. reference does not show such a second buffer groove, these claims are considered to be additionally allowable.

Claims 6 and 7 describe the arrangement of the first buffer groove as being below the platform. Since this arrangement is also not shown, Applicant submits that these claims are additionally allowable.

Conclusion

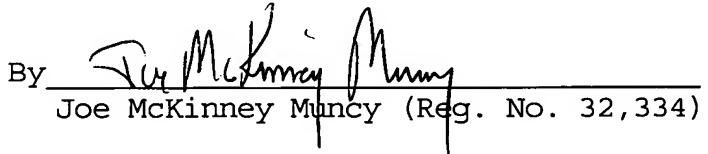
In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the claims clearly distinguish over the patent relied upon by the Examiner. In view of this, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of all of the claims are respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert Gnuse (Reg. No. 27,295) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By   
Joe McKinney Muncy (Reg. No. 32,334)

P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000

 KM/RFG/njp  
2450-0502P